

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINAI 01904 121524Z
ACTION SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 IO-13 INR-10 L-03
OC-06 CCO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 ACDA-12 NSC-05 DODE-00
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FOR SSM

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: SFM WEEKLY SUMMARY

1. THE WEEK OF AUGUST 6-12 WAS RELATIVELY QUIET. WE HAVE
IN ADDITION TO ROUTINE WORK CONCENTRATED ON PAPERWORK BACK-
LOG. DEPUTY DIRECTOR JIM BAHTI IS IN CAIRO AUGUST 11-15 ON
CONSULTATION WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS AND LAWIO.

2. OPERATIONS

A) THE ALERT LINK WITH THE ARE MOW WAS DOWN FOR A BRIEF
PERIOD; HOWEVER, THAT SERVICE WAS SOON RESTORED. E-SYSTEMS
PERSONNEL ARE PRESENTLY INSTALLING NEW BATTERIES AT THE ARE
RELAY SITE ON MR. IWIBID WHICH SHOULD IMPROVE TOTAL COMMUNI-
CATIONS WITH THE MOW. TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATIONS WITH TEL
AVIV WERE DOWN FOR INTERMITTENT PERIODS ALSO DURING THE WEEK.

B) SEVERAL BEDOUIN WERE DETECTED WITH THE RISS CAMERA
IN THE GIDDI WEST FIELD. THE UN WAS NOTIFIED AND PROMPTLY
DISPATCHED A PATROL TO THAT AREA. THE UN PATROL WAS UNABLE
TO FIND THE SIGHTED BEDOUIN.

C) JIM BAHTI AND ED SPRAGUE MET WITH LT. COL. ACHEL, THE
GHANAIAAN COMMANDER. COL. ACHEL STATED THAT HE HAS UNEF AP-
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PAGE 02 SINAI 01904 121524Z

PROVAL TO CONTRACT FOR 6 BEDOUIN TRACKERS, BUT UNEF ADMINIS-
TRATIVE PROCESS IS HOLDING UP THE HIRING. HE THINKS HE SHOULD
SOON HAVE FINAL APPROVAL.

D) OPERATIONS MOUNTED AND PLOTTED NEW MAPS AND AERIAL
PHOTOS FOR THE CONFERENCE ROOM. THE SILHOUETTE AIRCRAFT
PHOTOS HAVE BEEN MOUNTED AND SENT TO ALL WATCH STATIONS.

3. ADMINISTRATION

A) LAWIO CARDS. THE NEW SYSTEM FOR ISSUANCE OF LAWIO CARDS FOR PERSONNEL WHO ENTER THROUGH ISRAEL IS OPERATING WELL. UNDER THIS SYSTEM THE EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS REQUIRE SOME PROOF THAT THE APPLICANT HAS A MULTIPLE-ENTRY EGYPTIAN VISA BEFORE A CARD WILL BE ISSUED. EGYPTIANS HAVE AGREED TO USE OF PHOTOSTATIC COPIES OF VISAS AS PROOF. REQUEST FOR PERMANENT LAWIO CARDS FOR SSM STAFF MEMBERS HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS. SHOULD RECEIVE SOME CONFIRMATION NEXT WEEK.

B) ISRAELI DEFENSE TAXES/PHONE LINES. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER SAUNDERS AND CHIEF ACCOUNTANT SPRAGUE (E-SY) TRAVELLED TO TEL AVIV THIS WEEK TO MEET WITH MAJOR AVI PELED OF COLONEL LEVINSON'S OFFICE. TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WAS RECEIPT BY SFM OF A STATEMENT OF THE TEL AVIV LINE FOR THE MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY IN THE AMOUNT OF 113,197.00 ISRAELI POUNDS. THE RENTAL CHARGES FOR THE LINE TOTALLED 65,154.00 POUNDS. SINCE THE RENTAL PROBLEM HAS NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED, WE REQUESTED LEVINSON'S INTERVENTION TO FORESTALL CUTTING OF SERVICES FOR FAILURE TO PAY DISPUTED ACCOUNT. MAJOR PELED INFORMED SPRAGUE AND SAUNDERS THAT THE IDF HAS AGREED TO PAY ALL RENTAL CHARGES ON THE TEL AVIV LINE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1. USAGE CHARGES FOR THIS LINE WOULD STILL BE PAID BY SFM. HOWEVER, THIS BILL FOR APRIL AND MAY AS WELL AS THE EARLIER STATEMENT WERE NOT COVERED BY THE LATER RULING, BUT PELED ADVISED THAT LEVINSON'S OFFICE WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 SINAI 01904 121524Z

ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE FOR IDF TO PAY THE RENTAL CHARGES FOR THESE EARLIER STATEMENTS. PELED TOOK STATEMENT FOR APRIL-MAY PERIOD AND ARRANGED A WAIVER OF DISCONNECTION FOR FAILURE TO PAY BILL BY AUGUST 8 DEADLINE. WE ARE AWAITING FURTHER ACTION ON THIS MATTER.

PALED ALSO ADVISED THAT SFM WOULD RECEIVE A REFUND OF 22,000 POUNDS FOR DEFENSE TAXES PAID ON JERUSALEM LINE IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. REFUND WOULD BE IN THE FORM OF AN 18,000 POUND CREDIT FOR MARCH-APRIL TELEPHONE BILL AND A CHECK FOR 4,000 POUNDS. REFUND FOR THE TEL AVIV OFFICE LINE IN THE AMOUNT OF 14,000 POUNDS WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IN FORM OF CHECK IN NEXT TWO WEEKS.

C) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES. E-SYSTEMS INFORMED US THIS WEEK THAT THE COST OF WOOD FOR THE CONFERENCE TABLE WAS \$360 RATHER THAN \$750 AS REPORTED IN SINAI 1851.

D) VAT REFUND. SUBMITTED TO COLONEL LEVINSON A REQUEST FOR REFUND OF V.A.T. TAXES PAID BY SFM DURING THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1978 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1978. CLAIM TOTALLED 50,446.34 ISRAELI POUNDS. TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED FOR REFUND NOW TOTALS 416,311.83 POUNDS.

E) PELL AMENDMENT. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONS SECTIONS ARE NOW PREPARING STATISTICS ON PREMIUM COMPENSA-

TION PAID BY MISSION AND PROJECTED WORKLOAD IN RESPONSE TO
CABLE ON PASSAGE OF PROVISIONS TO MODIFY PELL AMENDMENT. REPORT
WILL BE SUBMITTED NEXT WEEK ALONG WITH POST'S SUG-
GESTIONS ON OTHER MEANS TO AMELIORATE THE PROBLEMS CREATED
BY THE RESTRICTION ON PAYMENT OF PREMIUM COMPENSATION.
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Subject: SFM WEEKLY SUMMARY
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